

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Liou Liang Horng : Examiner: Melissa S. Mercier
Serial No.: 10/707,102 : Group Art Unit: 1615
Filed: November 20, 2003 : Attorney Docket No.: 718673.2
For: SKIN ADHERENT HYDROGELS : Customer No.: 27128
Last Office Action: November 27, 2006 : Confirmation No.: 1101

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The present application contains claims 1-109. No amendment to the claims have been made.

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated November 27, 2006, Applicant hereby elects for prosecution at this time Group 1, claims 1-91 and 101-106 drawn to a composition comprising a hydrogel formed by a mixture two or more of:

1. a non-acidic poly(N-vinyl lactam) with a K value of at least 30;
2. a water soluble multifunctional amine-containing polymer, and mixtures thereof, or
3. a chitosan derivative or mixtures thereof, classified in class 424, subclass 484.

The election of Group I claims is made with traverse without prejudice to the elected Group 1 claims and without prejudice to the non-elected Groups II and III claims.

In response to the requirement for election of a species, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse the species e of Group I. This species is covered by the elected claims 1-6, 8-23, 47-70, 92, 97, 101, 102 and 104-106.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction are respectfully requested. The Applicant contends that Group I, II and III are closely related and have a common utility. Specifically, the formation of skin adherent gels that can be employed in various medical treatments. The Applicant further contends that the Groups I, II and III claims don't pose a serious burden for the examiner by requiring separate searches.

Because Applicant may wish to pursue claims of the non-elected Groups and species at a later date by Divisional Application, if necessary, it is requested that these claims, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142, be permitted to remain in the application, but withdrawn from examination.

This response does not present any new matter. Accordingly, as all requirements of the Action have been complied with, an action on the merits and a Notice of Allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

If any issue regarding the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved, or if other action could be taken to further advance this application such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present amendment, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: Dec. 22, 2006